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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants:

N. KOBAYASHI et al.

Serial No.:

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Continuation of Application Serial No.

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APPARATUS

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2634 (Anticipated)

Examiner:

C. Fan (Anticipated)

PRELIMINARY REMARKS

Box Patent Application Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231 June 25, 2001

sir:

The following remarks are being submitted prior to examination in connection with the above-identified application submitted herewith.

<u>REMARKS</u>

Claim 1 is pending, and is independent.

Submitted herewith is a claim for priority, acknowledgement of which is respectfully requested.

Submitted herewith is an Information Disclosure
Statement, consideration of which is respectfully requested.

Claim 1 of the present continuation application is a revised version of original claim 1 of application Serial No.